



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Parkade Center, Suite 250, 601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, Missouri 65203

To: District Conservationists
Area Conservationists
Resource Conservationist (Programs)
Engineering Staff
Field Technical Services Staff
Key Staff
Area Engineers
Civil Engineers
Project Engineers
State Technical Committee

Date: May 18, 2005

Subject: Notice of proposed changes to Missouri State Practice Standards for review and comment.

ACTION REQUIRED TO STATE OFFICE by July 5, 2005.

At the following web addresses, under “**Draft eFOTG**” (lower right front page), are seven Missouri draft practice standards that are posted on the Missouri eFOTG site for review and comment:

<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/treemenuFS.aspx?Fips=29019&MenuName=menuMO.zip> (general users)

or

<http://my.nrcs.usda.gov/> (NRCS employees)

It has been determined these changes are warranted to the NRCS State Field Office Technical Guide to account for improved technology. Comments will be received for a 45 day period commencing with this date of publication.

Draft practices posted for review and comment:

Tree/Shrub Pruning (660)

Primary changes outline additional criteria for “Production of Plant Products”. All changes are noted in blue type.

Forest Stand Improvement (666)

Primary changes include additional practice purposes along with expanded sections dealing with additional criteria to “Improve or Sustain Timber Production”, “Crop Tree Stocking and Density”, and “Carbon Storage”. All changes are noted in blue type.

Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)

Primary changes are referencing the appropriate Biology Job Sheets in the text of the standard. All changes are noted with vertical bars.

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Primary changes are referencing the appropriate Biology Job Sheets in the text of the standard. Also, when wildlife is the primary objective, soil test and fertility will not be required by this practice. Site conditions and landowner objectives will determine if soil test and fertility are needed. Other standards referenced are for seeding mixes/rates and methods, not fertility requirements. All changes are noted with vertical bars.

Shallow Water Management for Wildlife (646)

Primary changes are referencing the appropriate Biology Job Sheets in the text of the standard. All changes are noted with vertical bars.

Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647)

Primary changes are referencing the appropriate Biology Job Sheets in the text of the standard. All changes are noted with vertical bars.

Wildlife Watering Facility (648)

Primary changes are referencing the appropriate Biology Job Sheets in the text of the standard. All changes are noted with vertical bars.

For the next 45 days the NRCS will receive comments relative to the proposed changes. Following that period a determination will be made by the NRCS regarding disposition of those comments and a final determination of change will be made to the subject standard(s). Draft standards are for review and comment only. District Conservationists should review these draft standards with conservation district boards and their employees.

The following procedure shall be followed for response from within NRCS and SWCD to the State Office: District responses should be furnished to the District Conservationist. DCs shall consolidate comments (NRCS and SWCD) from all counties within a FOSA and submit one response directly to the State Office. Area Offices should consolidate area staff responses. Send all summaries and comments to Doug Wallace, State Forester or Pat Graham, State Biologist, Columbia, MO. Responses may be mailed to the State Office or emailed to Pat Graham at pat.graham@mo.usda.gov and doug.wallace@mo.usda.gov.

Responses from members of the State Technical Committee can be sent to Doug Wallace, State Forester or Pat Graham, State Biologist, Columbia, MO. Responses may be mailed to the State Office or emailed to Pat Graham at pat.graham@mo.usda.gov and doug.wallace@mo.usda.gov.



BOB BALL
State Resource Conservationist

DIST: Review eFOTG